



MARYLAND

Department of Health

State Board of Dental Examiners

Dear Licensees:

The Online Renewal System is Now Open

The Board's online renewal system is now activated for those licensees whose license is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2020. We apologize for the late activation and appreciate your patience. Licensees are able to renew their license for the customary fee beginning now and continuing through the 30th day after the Governor has rescinded the state of emergency. On the 31st day after the Governor declares the state of emergency rescinded, and for 30 days thereafter, licensees will still be able to renew their license online for the customary fee plus a late fee. After that time, licensees will not be able to renew their license online since their license will need to be reinstated, and the reinstatement process followed.

The Renewal Deadline Has Been Extended

Governor Hogan issued an Order on March 5, 2020 proclaiming a state of emergency and a catastrophic health emergency related to COVID-19. On March 12, 2020, the Governor issued an Order,

"Extending Certain Licenses, Permits, Registrations and Other Government Authorizations, And Authorizing Suspension of Legal Time Requirements".

The Dental Board interprets the Governor's Order as follows:

Since the State is still under a state of emergency, licensure renewal dates have changed as a result of the Governor's March 12, 2020 Order. The Order states in relevant part: "This Order applies to all licenses...issued by the State of Maryland, any agency of the State of Maryland...including...professional licenses...that would otherwise expire during the state of emergency...and be renewable during the state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency. The expiration date...is hereby extended to the 30th day after the date by which the state of emergency is terminated and the catastrophic health emergency is rescinded."

Regardless of the date of rescission, dentists and dental hygienists will have at least 30 days to renew their license before any late period begins. Further explanation of the governor's order as it relates to dentist and dental hygienist license renewal is best provided by example:

If the declared emergency is rescinded today or a date thereafter, the renewal date will be extended 30 days after the date of the rescission. That will take the renewal date past June 30, 2020. If that date falls on a legal holiday, Saturday, or Sunday, the renewal date will be the next day.

Once the renewal date is established, the late period for renewal will begin 31 days thereafter and last for 30 days. Dentists and dental hygienists will be required to reinstate their license upon expiration

of the late period. (COMAR 10.44.10.02e and f)

The late period of 30 days and the reinstatement requirement immediately thereafter follows the existing law.

If you hold a limited license to practice dentistry, the license may not be renewed in accordance with existing law. You must apply for a new license. You will be considered licensed by the board during any extension period.

During the extension dentists and dental hygienists holding general licenses will be considered licensed by the board through the renewal period and any late period.

The board will advise all dentists and dental hygienists when the state of emergency is terminated and the catastrophic health emergency has been resinded.

We appreciate your cooperation.

Frank McLaughlin

Executive Director

Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners